

**STATE OF MONTANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 19-2018**

EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING THE FUTURE READY MONTANA CABINET

WHEREAS, Montana's strong and growing economy means that more Montanans are working now than ever before, household income growth in Montana has grown faster than any other state in the country over the past five years, and Montanans continue to lead the way in innovation and entrepreneurship;

WHEREAS, Montana is also facing a demographic challenge with 6.5 percent of its workforce over the age of 65 and another 96,000 workers between the ages of 55 and 64;

WHEREAS, over the last five years, the Main Street Montana Project has built robust partnerships across education, labor, the private sector, and both state and local partners to strengthen Montana's talent pipeline and ensure that Montana workers have clear pathways to good-paying jobs;

WHEREAS, apprenticeships have nearly doubled since 2011 and this time-honored training model is expanding into non-traditional fields like healthcare, information technology, accounting, and advanced manufacturing;

WHEREAS, communities across the state are developing relevant, high-quality, work-based learning experiences for high school students;

WHEREAS, two-year colleges in the Montana University System are partnering with employers and the Registered Apprenticeship Program to develop customized apprenticeships connected to academic credit, so students can earn while they learn;

WHEREAS, by connecting education and labor market data, Montanans have a better understanding of labor market and wage outcomes for students in the Montana University System and are better able to plan for future workforce demand;

WHEREAS, Montana has set a goal that 60 percent of adults have a post-secondary degree or credential; and

WHEREAS, working together will ensure that Montana's workers are future-ready.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVE BULLOCK, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Montana, including § 2-15-122, MCA, do hereby create the Future Ready Montana Cabinet (Cabinet), as follows:

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Cabinet is to coordinate education and workforce initiatives to ensure that Montana residents are prepared for the jobs of today and of the future, and that Montana employers can fill their workforce needs.

DUTIES

1. Review data available to fully understand the skills gap in Montana and research efforts that are currently underway across the state.
2. Revisit Montana's attainment goals, and make data-informed decisions to differentiate goals for attainment of two-year associate degrees, one-year certificates, apprenticeship program completion, and other relevant industry-recognized credentials.
3. Define specific strategies for the state to implement in partnership with employers and other stakeholders to reach the attainment goals.
4. Recommend policy solutions to the Governor for consideration for the 2019 Biennial Budget proposal.

COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

1. The Cabinet members shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
2. The Governor shall serve as the chair of the Cabinet.
3. The Cabinet shall be comprised of eight additional members, including:
 - a. Lieutenant Governor
 - b. Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry
 - c. Director of the Department of Commerce
 - d. Director of the Department of Public Health and Human Services
 - e. Adjutant General of the National Guard
 - f. Director of the Governor's Office of Economic Development
 - g. Superintendent of Public Instruction
 - h. Commissioner of Higher Education
4. The Cabinet may establish procedural bylaws to aid in the performance of its duties.
5. The Cabinet may establish subcommittees comprised of members of the Cabinet to aid it in the performance of its duties.
6. The Cabinet is attached to the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes.
7. Staff of the Governor's Office shall provide assistance to the Cabinet.

8. The Cabinet may request consultation, information, and technical expertise from directors or their designees of state agencies regarding workforce training policies and initiatives and other relevant issues.
9. The Cabinet may request comments, information, and technical expertise from such other sources as it deems necessary, including universities, federal agencies, and members of the public.

COMPENSATION

Cabinet members eligible for reimbursement shall be reimbursed pursuant to § 2-15-122(5), MCA.

DURATION

This Order is effective immediately, and shall expire or be renewed by June 30, 2019.



GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of
the State of Montana this 19 day of
June 2018.

STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:

COREY STAPLETON, Secretary of State